

Serial No. 10/670,806  
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Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A burner apparatus for burning fuel and air to a combustion gas comprising:

a premixing chamber for premixing the fuel and the air with an air inlet for the air to enter said premixing chamber and having a cross-sectional area;

a fuel inlet for the fuel to enter said premixing chamber; and an outlet for a mixture of the air and the fuel to exit said premixing chamber,

wherein said fuel inlet is located between said air inlet and said outlet, further comprising at least one air blocking member situated at the air inlet which blocks a portion of the air flow to create a region having a locally enriched fuel mixture toward a wall of the burner and configured to cause a recirculation zone to develop toward an outer periphery of the outlet.

2. (previously presented) The burner apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said air inlet has in said cross-sectional area an outer periphery and said at least one blocking member located at the outer periphery.

3. (previously presented) The burner apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said at least one blocking member extends towards a main axis of said apparatus.

4. (previously presented) The burner apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said at least one blocking member has at said outer periphery a width which decreases towards said main axis.

5. (previously presented) The burner apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said width decreases continuously towards said main axis.

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